

Memorandum of Understanding
on
German-Thai Dual Excellence Education
between
the Ministry of Education of the Kingdom of Thailand
and
the Federal Foreign Office of the Federal Republic of Germany

The Thai Ministry of Education and the German Federal Foreign Office (“partners”) welcome the new momentum in the area of dual education created by the recent Conference “DUAL. excellence – Thai-German Conference on Dual Education and Dual Studies” held in Bangkok on October 1 and 2, 2012, including the instruments signed at that occasion.

Partners are aware of further existing *memoranda of understanding* which have been agreed upon in the past between individual German companies and the Office of the Vocational Education Commission (OVEC), Ministry of Education of Thailand and intend to build upon them as well.

Partners are convinced that the renowned German Professional Education System can offer new *stimuli* to the existing system of vocational education in Thailand.

In this spirit, partners welcome especially the new initiative “**German-Thai Dual Excellence Education**”. The initiative consists in its first phase of a limited number of private, mainly German companies such as Bosch, BMW and B. Grimm that have set up internal vocational programs linked with selected Thai colleges. Core elements of the programs include, amongst others, a meaningful balance between vocational education at the company level and vocational education at the college, based on well-defined and co-ordinated framework curricula for both sides (with supplementary contents to fulfil the requirements of the German System), an apprenticeship relation between company and student, based on a contract (with allowance and scholarship payments for the student) and with trained apprenticeship mentors within the company.

Partners welcome especially the involvement of the German-Thai Chamber of Commerce (GTCC) which will advise, monitor and complement the process with additional quality measures to be defined and the issuance of certificates of excellence wherever possible and appropriate.

Partners encourage a broad participation in that initiative. The initiative is open to new participants on the company and the college level. To this purpose, the GTCC intends to establish a coordinating unit jointly with the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ).

Existing domestic vocational education schemes will not be touched by the initiative.

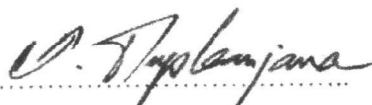
Partners are aware that responsibilities under the initiative remain with the involved companies and colleges as before.

Partners intend to share and exchange all relevant information about the further development of the initiative, including with the involved companies and the coordinating body of GTCC and GIZ.

Any issues concerning interpretation or operation of this Memorandum will be resolved through negotiations in good faith between the Partners. For the avoidance of doubt, this Memorandum is not intended to have legally binding effect.


Signed in duplicate in Bangkok on 16 May 2013 in the English and Thai languages, both texts having equal validity.

For the Ministry of Education of
the Kingdom of Thailand



Mr. Phongthep Thepkanjana
Minister of Education

For the Federal Office of the
Federal Republic of Germany



Mr. Rolf Peter Gottfried Schulze
Ambassador of the Federal Republic of
Germany to Bangkok